REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed in order to present a new set of claim for examination. The new set of claims reads on the elected invention. Withdrawn claims 18-20 are being cancelled.

Since the total number of pending claims is now 23, three of them being independent, an additional claim fee of \$27 is being paid concurrently.

Examination of the application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

L. Allen Wood (the applicant)

Registration No. 28,134 RABIN & BERDO, P.C.

Suite 500

1101 14th Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C.

Telephone: (202) 371-8976 Telefax: (202) 408-0924